

BRANDESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minute of a meeting of Brandeston Parish Council held on Tuesday 14th July 2015 at 8pm in the committee room of the Village Hall.

Present: Councillor Elson in the Chair. Councillors Buckingham, Churchill, Kirton, Mitson-Woods and Norman. Les Cullen was also present

1-1516/3 Welcome from the Chairman Councillor Elson. Councillor Elson welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The meeting adjourned for parishioners to raise any issues pertaining to the village. The Chairman thanked Les for doing a splendid job on renovating the bus shelter.

Report from PCSO Hassler (Circulated), the Chairman moved the meeting to Agenda Item 9-1516/3 to allow PCSO Hassler to speak about the speeding issues. PCSO Hassler was asked by Councillor Kirton about the traveller situation at Kesgrave. He responded by saying that they had now moved off. There were no issues with the travellers who had been at the Queen and left on time.

Councillors asked PCSO Hassler what progress had been made on organising speed monitoring in the village. He said if we shared Easton's equipment he would need to do a site survey to check where a monitor could be placed and once formalities are complete volunteers would have to be trained to use the equipment. Easton PC have to get the machine recalibrated annually and Brandeston PC may wish to help with this cost if it is decided to share.

Councillor Buckingham asked about SID (Speed Indicator Display) which SCC can place in the village to show motorists how fast they are travelling. The Clerk had experienced little satisfaction from talking to SCC Area Engineer Tony Buckingham and if she cannot progress this she will email PCSO Hassler. PCSO Hassler will try to set up a speed check by September. He checked which area of the village has the most trouble with speeding motorists. It was agreed that the road between the pub and the Kettleburgh entrance to the village was the worst affected. The meeting agreed that we must get action on this issue as it has been on every Agenda for a long period.

2-1516/3 To receive any Declarations of Interest

Councillor Mitson-Woods declared an interest in item 11-1516/3 as he lives next door to the proposed development.

3-1516/3 To receive and accept apologies for absence

Councillor Duffy was unwell and asked Councillors to accept his apology for absence, he also asked the Clerk to tell Councillors that he may be unable to attend a Police Liaison meeting on the 15th July. It was agreed that his apology be accepted. Councillor Buckingham apologised for the fact that she had to leave early due to work commitments. The Chairman agreed to bring the Agenda item for her report forward to enable this.

4-1516/3 **To receive and sign as a true record the minutes of the meeting of 16th June 2015** (Circulated). These were approved as a true record by Councillors and signed by the Chairman

5-1516/3 **Finance**

- a) To receive a financial report from the Responsible Finance Officer – this was accepted by Councillors (Attached)
- b) To sign cheques authorised at the meeting of the Council on 12th May 2015 – minute refs. 7-1516/1 a), b), d) and e) Agreed.
- c) To authorise paying the Clerk/RFO for administration for the period 1st April – 15th July 2015. 30 hours at £10.00 per hour. Agreed.
- d) PC Insurance – to check amounts insured and to consider any additional cover for year beginning October 2015. There is a sum insured to 2,500.00 and Councillors are aware that the Council does not own any office equipment. It was agreed that the Clerk should check with Community Action Suffolk to see if the village sign, Notice board and village hall gates should have increased cover. The Clerk advised that Public Liability should be raised to 10million. The Clerk was asked to contact Suffolk Association of Local Councils for advice.
- e) To discuss membership of the Suffolk Preservation Society at an annual subscription of £30.00 – Councillors agreed that the Council should become a member.
- f) **Suffolk Association of Local Councils training courses.**
Easton PC is to have a training course delivered in the Easton VH – to discuss invitation from Councillor Sue Piggot, Chairman, to join in. Clerk to liaise with Sue Piggot. Councillors agreed this made sense and the Clerk to talk to Easton PC about this. Easton PC meets on 10th August.
- g) **Village hall gates:** Councillors considered a course of action and a quotation for restoration. The Chairman reported that there is rust and major renovation is needed. Councillor Norman felt that the time has come to do some serious work to stop deterioration. The Clerk was asked to get quotes for proper renovation that will keep the gates in good order for a long time. It was recognised that they are an important feature in Brandeston Street. (At this point Les Cullen advised Councillors that shot-blasting can uncover serious problems so they should be prepared for high costs.) It was agreed that the Clerk should seek 3 quotes for a proper refurbishment; it was acknowledged that to get 3 may be difficult as the work is very specialised.

6-1516/3 **Clerk's Report to update Councillors on actions from last meeting.**

- a) Sewage smell at Low Road, after contacting Brendan Foley the manhole covers have been sealed and the smell eliminated.
- b) Contact made with Councillor Sue Piggot, Chairman of Easton PC re traffic monitoring. Contact had been made and there was enthusiasm for working with Brandeston on the matter.
- c) Internal Auditor. Don Evans has agreed to be the Internal Auditor for 2015/16.

7-1516/3 Highway matters

- a) To discuss the state of signs and verges (Correspondence from previous discussion circulated.) The Clerk reported that she had spoken with Tony Buckingham, Area Engineer. He stated that Heritage signs would cost well over 700.00 each + design costs. We would have to have a survey costing 3000.00 before work could be done. It was agreed the Clerk should take this back to Councillor Bellfield as although SCC felt the triangle at the junction in Low Street was fine Councillors felt it constitutes a danger as it is corroded and unsecure. SCC can replace the damaged signs like for like free of charge.

8-1516/3 Broadband speed in the village

Councillor Buckingham to report back on discussions with Terry Robinson. Councillor Buckingham spoke to her report.

Concerns were raised that widespread acceptance of the satellite option in the village may delay the delivery of Superfast Broadband. It was agreed that the recommendations in Councillor Buckingham's report be accepted and she will continue to pursue the matter and report back. It was acknowledged that not every household in remoter areas of the village may benefit from Superfast Broadband.

9-1516/3 To discuss sharing speed monitoring equipment with Easton Parish Council to help reduce speeding through Brandeston - see also open Forum.

The completion of a white line outside the village hall gates on the opposite side of the road was discussed with PCSO Hassler. The work had not been completed because SCC had not placed the line where it was meant to go originally. It had been objected to but it was necessary to allow emergency access to the hall. The Council had been told that it was not to be pursued because it did not comply with the reason for which it was intended – originally identified as vehicles parked there create a hazard for emergency vehicles accessing the village hall. PCSO Hassler cannot intervene other than to ask a vehicle owner to move but it could only be a request. However in a dire emergency an obstructing vehicle would be removed. The white lining will not be completed. It had been agreed with the householder that the line could be put in. Clerk to take this to Highways. We can quote PCSO Hassler in the matter when we raise it to SCC.

10-1516/3 Suffolk Association of Local Councils – report from Councillor Mitson-Woods on SALC area meeting on 15th June. (Attached) Next meeting 21st September. Councillors agreed that the information received back was very valuable.**11-1516/3 Planning Matters - to discuss and formulate a response to Application Ref DC/15/2541/FUL for a conservatory to be added to new build Plot C at The Leas Mutton Lane. Councillor Kirton was surprised that planning consent was needed. The Councillors supported the application.****12-1516/3 Request from a parishioner that the Council discusses the sign at the entrance to the village from the Kettleburgh direction with a view to organising cleaning and**

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clearing the sign. It was acknowledged that Les Cullen had done this and Councillor Mitson-Woods asked that this Minute formally thank Les Cullen for doing this.

12-1516/3 **Date of next meeting** – 8th September 2015 at 7.30pm in the Committee Room of the village hall. It was decided to bring the meeting time forward to 7.30pm in future. The Chairman closed the meeting at 10.05pm.